

## Handbook of heresies

1. 1. The Bible Believer's Handbook of Heresies By Pastor James L. Melton  
Copyright © 2002 - Published by Bible Baptist Church, 125 E. Maple, Sharon, TN "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction." (II Peter 2:1)  
Introduction Over the past few years, I have received many requests for a booklet on "the cults." I have never written such a booklet, because there are simply too many cults in our midst. It would take a sizable BOOK to properly expose the many cults and heresies that exist. Besides, other fine authors have already produced some very good books on this subject that have been a blessing to Christians for many years. I really have not seen a NEED for a new BOOK on the cults. However, I do see a need for the kind of booklets that we've been publishing all along. I see a need for brief and inexpensive booklets that can be read through quickly and distributed widely. Assuming you've taken the time to read Walter Martin's Kingdom of the Cults, how many copies have you given out to others? Perhaps you've read Larson's Book of Cults, but have you capitalized on a way to give this valuable information to your family and friends? Probably not, because these books run hundreds of pages in length, and it would be very expensive to distribute multiple copies. Furthermore, most people wouldn't take the time to read through such a book if they had it. That's where we "come in." As a local church ministry, we believe in propagating truth. We believe in making it easy for you to give the truth to others. Thus far, our handbooks and tracts have enjoyed a wide circulation. Sunday school teachers order them for their students. Pastors order them for their members. Missionaries use them on the fields. Individual Christians order them for friends and family members. We distribute them while street preaching, as well as door-to-door, and to local jail inmates. We will probably
2. 2. never become very involved in publishing books, but, Lord willing, we will remain very involved in publishing booklets and tracts that can be widely distributed without great expense. We're "getting the word out," and we're doing it God's way: through the local church. We realize that many will be greatly offended by this booklet. This is largely because most people have never learned to take God's side against themselves. It is my conviction that God's word is RIGHT, and anyone who disagrees is WRONG, even if it's my wife, my mother, my best friend, or myself. I receive many letters from people who like to complain about my "attitude" and the way I have "attacked" them. My attitude can be found in Isaiah 8:20, and the only thing I attack is FALSE DOCTRINE. (Please read that statement again.) There is a large difference between attacking a person's BELIEFS and attacking the

person. If I wanted to attack YOU, then I'd write about your weight, your wife, your unruly children, your clothing, or your bad credit. This booklet deals with FALSE DOCTRINE--not personal attacks. If more preachers would expose false teachers, like they have been commanded to do, then booklets such as this wouldn't seem so arrogant and abrasive to so many. We are only obeying God's word by warning others about false teachers. In Romans 16:17-18, the Apostle Paul exhorts the church to MARK and AVOID those who do not teach sound doctrine: "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple." If Bible-believing Christians had faithfully obeyed this command for only the past one-hundred years, then our generation would be well informed about false teachers, and the heresies in our midst would be very minor. We're only doing what Christians should have been doing all along. We fully realize that sincere Christian people can be found within the membership of any church, and that no church is absolutely flawless in every way. This booklet is simply our effort to warn people about many of the false doctrines that are being taught in these last days. It should serve as a good reference tool for finding quick and accurate information about the main heresies in our midst. If you find it helpful, please understand that it can be just as helpful to your friends and family members. Order a few copies and do your part in warning others about the many heresies that make up the broad way to destruction. "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." (Isa. 8:20)

3. [3. A Study of Heretical Teachings, Teachers, and Terms A-Millennialism](#)  
This is the false belief that there will be no millennium--no one thousand year reign of Christ and His saints on earth. Revelation 20:1-7 plainly tells us that there WILL be a millennial reign. Other interesting references can be found in II Timothy 2:11-13, Luke 19:17-19, and Revelation 5:10 (just to name a few). Most a-millennialists steal God's kingdom promises to Israel and apply them to the church today. Anglo-Israelism Also called British-Israelism, this is the belief that the Anglo-Saxon people make up the ten "lost tribes" of Israel and are the heirs of God's covenant promises to Israel. Naturally, this belief has lost some weight since the days when "the sun never sat on the British Empire." However, thanks to Herbert Armstrong, who taught that England is Ephraim and the United States is Manasseh, this heresy is now embraced by a great number of people. The notion that the ten northern tribes are lost is unscriptural. Revelation 12:4- 8 plainly tells us that God will seal 12,000 Jews from each tribe in the coming Tribulation. No mention is made here of America, England, or any anglo-saxon people. In fact, such people would be found in verse 9,

totally separate from the Jews. Also, there is no scriptural basis for teaching that the ten northern tribes will form NATIONS. Hosea and Amos, who prophesied mostly to the ten northern tribes, declared that these tribes would be scattered "among the nations" (Hos. 8:10; 9:17; Amos 9:9). God never said that He would permit them to form independent nations of their own. Advocates of the anglo-Israel heresy insist that "Jews" are only those from Judah, while "Israel" is the ten northern tribes. Any reader of Scripture knows this just won't do. In Matthew 10:6, Jesus told His disciples "But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel," yet we never read of the twelve going north and preaching to the ten "lost tribes." They preached in Palestine. It wasn't until after the resurrection that Christ commissioned them to go

4. 4. elsewhere (Acts 1:8-9). The words "Jew" and "Israel" are used interchangeably throughout the Bible, especially in Ezra and Nehemiah. Peter was from Galilee, some eighty miles north of Jerusalem and over fifty miles north of Samaria, yet Paul still titled him a "Jew" in Galatians 2:14. The Bible is filled with promises like Zechariah 8:13 and Acts 26:7, which tell us that all Israel (all twelve tribes) will be restored and saved. Also see Jeremiah 30:3, Amos 9:14-15, Romans 11:26, Isaiah 66:8, Matthew 19:28, and James 1:1. Even in eternity, God distinguishes between the twelve tribes and other nations (Rev. 21:12, 24-26). Anglo-Israelism is a gross mis-application of the Scriptures. Annihilation This false teaching is very popular with people like the "Jehovah's Witnesses," who do not believe in a literal and eternal lake of fire for the punishment of the wicked. Annihilation is the belief that the wicked will be totally destroyed at some point in the future, and that no ETERNAL place of torment exists. The Lord Jesus Christ believed otherwise (Mat. 25:41; Luke 16:24). Apostolic Signs and Wonders In Mark 16:17-18, Jesus said to the Apostles, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Because of their inability and refusal to rightly divide the word of truth (II Tim. 2:15), the Charismatics operate under the false assumption that these signs are still in effect today and that it is THEIR duty to fulfill them. In their haste to make a dollar, the Charismatics consistently ignore the fact that Jesus said these were SIGNS, and that I Corinthians 1:22 tells us that SIGNS are for the JEWS. Israel began with signs (Rom. 4:11; Exo. 4:8, 9, 17, 23, 28, 30; 7:3; 8:23; 10:1-2; 13:9; 31:13, 17; Deu. 4:34; 6:22), lived by signs (Deu. 11:18; Jos. 4:6; I Sam. 10:7; II Kgs. 19:29; Isa. 7:14; 38:7, 22; Eze. 4:3; 20:12, 20), and demanded signs from Christ (Mat. 12:38; 24:3). There is more scripture to support the doctrine of signs being for Israel than there is to support the Virgin Birth and the Inspiration of Scripture combined! Anyone who ignores

this truth is absolutely unqualified to teach, preach, or write anything about the Apostolic Signs. If you'll take a look at

5. [5](#). Hebrews 2:3-4 you will see that the signs were used to CONFIRM the word of God, and you will also see that the signs are spoken of in the PAST TENSE. They are also spoken of in the past tense in II Corinthians 12:12. Those who insist that we should practice the signs today because they were practiced throughout the New Testament haven't been reading (or believing) their Bible. They were not practiced throughout the New Testament. In fact, Paul left Trophimus SICK at Miletum (II Tim. 4:20); he gave Timothy medical advice instead of healing him (I Tim. 5:23), and he had infirmities of his own from which he could not be healed (II Cor. 11:30; 12:5-10). Now why all this sickness if the Apostolic Signs were still in effect? Answer: They WEREN'T still in effect, because they were only needed in the early ministry of the Apostles for the purpose of confirming the truth to Israel. Now we firmly believe that God can still work miracles and heal anyone He chooses, and we believe that the prayers of God's people can move Him to work miracles, but let's not confuse answered prayers with Apostolic Signs, because there's a vast difference. We believe in healing; we just don't believe in healers. As for unknown tongues, people have done this for thousands of years. The Tower of Babel in Genesis 11 was the first instance, but this was certainly no outpouring of the Holy Ghost! When the Church of Satan speaks in unknown tongues (which they do), is that a work of the Holy Ghost? Most any good psychologist can teach you to speak in unknown tongues, but this isn't a work of the Holy Ghost! Too many people have the idea that if something is highly abnormal or miraculous that it MUST be of God. The coming Antichrist will have a field day with such feeble minded people, because HE will work such "signs and lying wonders" that the entire world will follow after him (II Ths. 2:8- 12; Rev. 13:13-14). Nowhere in the New Testament did God command anyone to speak with unknown tongues. We do read about "new tongues" (Mar. 16:17), "other tongues" (Acts 2:4) and "divers kinds of tongues" (I Cor. 12:10), but these are all FOREIGN LANGUAGES, not senseless gibberish! There are no unknown tongues in Acts 2, and there is no baptism of the Holy Ghost in I Corinthians 14. Instead of rightly dividing the word of truth, the careless Charismatics wrest the Scriptures to their own destruction by ignoring the set divisions and doctrines that the Holy Spirit has inspired in the scriptures. The Apostolic Signs are not for today, because they were only for confirming the word of God to the unbelieving Jews in the first century. The Bible warns us to beware of anyone who professes to practice these signs today (II Cor. 11:13-15; Mat.
6. [6](#). 7:15; 24:11; I Tim. 4:1-2), and the Lord commends the church at Ephesus for trying out some professing apostles and finding them to be LIARS (Rev. 2:2). Armstrong, Garner Ted Outcast son of Herbert W.

Armstrong who founded the Worldwide Church of God. Garner Ted assisted his father in spreading the Armstrong "gospel", and he hosted The World Tomorrow telecast. That is, until his expulsion in 1978 for his philandering with money and women. Today he heads up his own cult in Texas: The Church of God International. His beliefs are very similar to those of his father. Armstrong, Herbert W. Founder and lifelong leader of the Worldwide Church of God. Born 1892; founded cult in 1934; died in 1986. See Worldwide Church of God. Azusa Street Mission Located at 312 Azusa Street in Los Angeles, the ASM served as a meeting place for the beginning of the modern Charismatic movement. It was from here that Pentecostalism began to spread throughout the nation. See Charismatic Groups. Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire Most Charismatic groups teach that a person receives the Holy Ghost sometime AFTER they've received Christ as Saviour, but this is plain heresy. Romans 8:9 tells us that a person does not even belong to Christ if that person doesn't have the Spirit of God, so salvation and the baptism of the Holy Ghost are SYNONYMOUS, not separate. To further the confusion, such groups also refer to this event as a "baptism of fire". The only baptism of fire in the Bible is the one that John spoke of when he spoke of Christ burning sinners in UNQUENCHABLE fire (Mat. 3:11-12). The only time a person is baptized in fire is when he is cast into the LAKE of fire (Rev. 20:14-15). Believers are baptized with the Holy Ghost, but sinners are baptized with fire.

Baptist Bride

7. [7.](#) A "Baptist Brider" is an extreme Baptist who believes that "The Baptist Church" is the Bride of Christ. All other Christians supposedly make up the FAMILY of God, but are not part of THE BRIDE. The details of this heresy differ from one group to the next, but the general teaching is that The Baptist Church (whatever that is!) has existed since the time of Christ (or perhaps John the Baptist) and that "approved" water baptism actually places a believer into the bride. Water baptisms that are not approved are considered "alien" baptisms and are not honored by the Baptist Bride churches. This leaves "aliens" like Bob Jones Sr., John Wesley, George Whitfield, and Martin Luther out of the bride, while the Bridegroom rides off into the sunset with His proud and conceited Baptist sweetheart. However, finding someone who will ADMIT to being a "brider" is not an easy task. Just like the Campbellites, they hate the name, but love the doctrine. There are a number of careless steps that Baptist Briders usually take before promoting this outrageous heresy: (1) Ignore II Timothy 2:15 where we are told to RIGHTLY DIVIDE THE WORD OF TRUTH. This will allow one to go anywhere in the New Testament to find "proof texts" for his theory. (2) Ignore Matthew 3:11 where John speaks of Christ's HOLY GHOST baptism in CONTRAST to his water baptism. This allows them to pretend that water baptism is also the context of I Corinthians 12:13, Romans 6:3-4, and Galatians 3:27. This is convenient because this



- would mean that water baptism puts one INTO the body of Christ. (3) Now ignore Matthew 20:22-23 where Jesus speaks of a FUTURE baptism for his disciples which is not a WATER baptism. (4) Ignore the fact that John's baptism was a special baptism of repentance which accompanied the preaching of the KINGDOM message to ISRAEL (Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3; Acts 13:24; 19:4; Mat. 3:1-6; John 1:31). (5) Ignore the fact that Paul said he wasn't even sent to baptize, but to preach the Gospel (I Cor. 1:17). (If baptism puts one into the body and bride of Christ, why would Paul make such a statement? We realize that Paul did baptize some, but it wasn't part of his commission.) (6) Assume that the term "church" means an organized denomination with a name and a history, as in The Catholic Church, The Episcopal Church, or The
8. **8.** Baptist Church. This assumption will allow the brider to add his own special touch to passages like Ephesians 5:30-32, and Ephesians 4:4. (7) Now he can grab Matthew 16:18, just like the Catholics and Campbellites, and pretend that Jesus was speaking about His BAPTIST church. After all, He DID take over after John the BAPTIST, so the brider can teach that it MUST have been a BAPTIST church. (8) Ignore the fact that the Kingdom was being offered to Israel all through the Gospels and clear through Acts chapter seven when Israel made her final rejection of the Kingdom by killing Stephen. (9) Ignore the fact that immediately after Israel rejects the Kingdom God picks Paul and gives him a special commission which does NOT include the water baptism of repentance since his gospel message is not a KINGDOM message (Acts 8-9; I Cor. 1:17; II Cor. 5:18-20). (10) Ignore the fact that if "The Baptist Church" started with John or Jesus, then there wasn't any point in God giving a special commission to Paul since the whole thing was already established and operating anyhow! Now the Brider is all set. Now he can teach that his church started with John. Then John gave the bride away to Jesus who promised that the gates of Hell wouldn't prevail against His church. Then Jesus turned his duties over to the twelve and commissioned them to go into all the world teaching and baptizing, which is what The Baptist Church has been doing ever since. How nice. Don't you just love a happy ending? Too bad Wesley and Whitfield couldn't come along. Calvinism A Calvinist is a person who subscribes to the theological beliefs of John Calvin, the Swiss Protestant reformer of the sixteenth century. There are five main points in Calvinism, four of which are false teachings. The five points of Calvinism are usually represented by the letters T.U.L.I.P. The "T" is for TOTAL DEPRAVITY. This is the false doctrine that man is so depraved that he cannot even see his sinful condition and call upon God for salvation. It is true that all men are natural-born sinners (Rom. 3:23; 5:12; Psa. 51:5), but it is also true that God COMMANDS all men to repent and receive Christ (Acts 17:30-31; I John 3:23; Luke 13:3). Man is indeed depraved, but he isn't so depraved that he has no free will of his own (II Pet.

9. 9. 3:9; Jn. 1:12; 3:16; Jos. 24:15; Exo. 35:5, 21, 22, 29). Total Depravity is heresy. "U" stands for UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION, which is a heresy derived from perverting verses like Ephesians 1:4-5 and Romans 8:29. The Calvinists believe that God predestinated everyone way back before Genesis 1:1, totally ignoring their free will to choose for themselves. That is, He supposedly decided who would go to Heaven and who would go to Hell long before anyone was even born. If you'll read Romans 8:29 and I Peter 1:1-2 you'll see that God's election is based on FOREKNOWLEDGE. He didn't elect to save or damn anyone against their free will. God knew all along who would choose Christ and who would not, and He made His "elections" based on that information. Then we have the "L" for LIMITED ATONEMENT. This is the belief that only a limited number of people can be washed from their sins in the precious blood of Christ, because only "the elect" will be saved anyhow. The idea is that Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it (Eph. 5:25); so the blood of Christ was only shed for the church. This is foolishness. I Timothy 2:6 says that Christ gave Himself a ransom for ALL, not just the elect. ALL have sinned (Rom. 3:23); so He died for ALL, and He saves "as many as" receive Him (John 1:12). The "I" stands for IRRESISTIBLE GRACE, which is also false doctrine. This teaching says that God the Holy Spirit overpowers the sinner and grants him the new birth without his submission or positive response. As we've already seen, man DOES have a free will and no one is saved without CHOOSING to believe on Christ as Lord and Saviour. There is no such thing as irresistible grace. God has given us all the ability to resist anyone or anything we choose (Acts 7:51; II Tim. 3:8; Jas. 4:7). There are times when the convicting power of the Holy Spirit is so strong and real that a sinner sees no choice but to give in to God and receive Christ as Saviour, but the sinner always has a choice. No one is saved against their will, and no one is saved without first choosing to receive Christ. The last letter is "P," which represents the PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS. This is the only point in "T.U.L.I.P" which is anywhere near correct. Once a sinner receives Christ, he is predestinated to be conformed to Christ's image (Rom. 8:29). That is, as Christians, we are eternally secure and cannot lose the salvation which God has freely given us. Campbell, Alexander
10. 10. The "master spirit" of the "Church of Christ." He was appointed preacher of the "First Church of the Christian Association of Washington" in 1811. By 1830, Campbell was a very strong and stubborn advocate of baptismal regeneration. See Church of Christ. Campbell, Thomas Father of Alexander Campbell. He established the "Christian Association" which later became the first Campbellite church where he served as an elder. See Church of Christ. Campbellite Followers of Alexander Campbell. This is the appropriate name for devout members of the so-called "Church of Christ." Celibate Priesthood The teaching that Catholic priests must remain single. See

Papacy and Priesthood. Charismatic Groups The Pentecostals, the Church of God, and the Assemblies of God have been the traditional standard bearers of Charismatic doctrine, although their teachings are also promoted by various groups such as "Full Gospel" churches and "Praise and Worship Centers". These groups do differ in some practices and beliefs, but their basic doctrines concerning the ministry of the Holy Spirit are the same and are false. It is important for the Bible believer to know and remember that there were NO CHARISMATIC GROUPS AROUND BEFORE 1900. The whole mess began in the year 1900 when Charles F. Parham established the Bethel Bible College in Topeka, Kansas. He taught his students that speaking in tongues was the evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. On January 1, 1901, Agnes Ozman, a student at BBC, spoke in tongues. From that day forth, Pentecostal groups have taught that speaking in tongues is the "evidence" of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. In 1906, W. J. Seymour, a student of Parham's, began holding meetings at 312 Azusa Street in Los Angeles. Regular meetings were held here for three

11. 11. years, and it was from here that the movement spread across America with the establishment of churches and denominations. The principle errors found within the Charismatic movement are listed below. Each of these errors are covered in more detail elsewhere in this booklet. 1. Apostolic Signs and Wonders 2. Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire 3. Denial of Eternal Security 4. Unpardonable Sin 5. Women Preachers  
 Christian Science Founded in 1879 by Mary Baker Eddy, the Christian Science cult is based upon her book Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures. This book borrowed heavily from the writings of Dr. P. P. Quimby without giving him due credit. Mrs. Eddy is the mother of Christian Science, but many have suggested that the father is none other than Quimby himself. Eddy had visited Dr. Quimby in 1862 with a spinal inflammation. At the time, she credited Quimby with healing her sickness, but later spoke against him while stealing his ideas and words for her own writings. That's not all she stole. Appealing to intellectuals and mystical-minded people with her "mind-over-matter gospel," Mrs. Eddy raked in large sums of money from her members. At the time of her death she was worth around three million dollars. None of this money was left to charity. During her life, Mrs. Eddy ruled the Christian Science empire without any internal opposition, but after her death in 1910, the fight began for her empty throne. The Christian Science Parent Church was formed with Mrs. Annie C. Bill of London assuming control and Mr. John V. Dittmore leaving the Board of Directors to support Mrs. Bill as Eddy's successor. The Board of Directors in Boston fought against this effort and eventually the "parent church" faded away.
12. 12. Today, Christian Scientists are directed from the "Mother Church" in Boston. "Sermons" are prepared by a central committee and issued quarterly to all Christian Scientists throughout the world.



Their congregations have "readers," but not pastors. The readers read from Science and Health and from the Bible. The Christian Scientists are much into publishing with the Christian Science Monitor having a circulation of over 150,000. Their heresies are many: 1. Denial of Blood Atonement 2. Denial of Deity of Christ 3. Denial of Deity of Holy Ghost 4. Denial of Eternal Security 5. Denial of Literal Burning Hell 6. Denial of the Physical Resurrection of Christ 7. Denial of Literal Second Coming of Christ 8. Denial of Sin Nature from Birth 9. Denial of the Trinity 10. Denial of the Virgin Birth 11. Multiple Authorities 12. Salvation through Works Church of Christ Properly called "Campbellites", the so-called "Church of Christ" did not appear on the pages of church history until the early 1800's when Thomas Campbell, and his son, Alexander, left the Presbyterian church to restore the "true" church.

13. [13.](#) Thomas Campbell first organized the "Christian Association" which later became an independent church in 1811. Thomas was appointed elder, Alexander was "licensed" to preach, and four deacons were elected. At this time, none of the members had been baptized by immersion. The first Campbellite church wasn't named the "Church of Christ." It was named the "First Church of the Christian Association of Washington." Having strong argumentative abilities, Alexander, became involved in a number of public debates, and was often corrected by his father for his conduct in these debates. Alexander's theory was that "a week's debating is worth a year's preaching." (Memoirs, Vol. 2, p. 90). Paul's theory was slightly different (I Cor. 1:18, 21; Rom. 1:29). Needless to say, this same spirit of debate is still very present among his followers. The Campbells weren't baptized by immersion until June 12, 1812--a whole year after starting their "church." Being unable to find a Church of Christ preacher (since there were none before 1811), they convinced Matthias Luce, a Baptist preacher, to perform the service. Luce himself was later rejected by his Baptist brethren. Several years later (1825-1830), the Campbell clan (also called the "reformers") was joined by Walter Scott, a traveling preacher who believed in baptismal regeneration. The Campbells embraced his views and were later joined by Barton Stone (another ex-Presbyterian). Together, the "big four" were ready to take on the world with the "true Gospel." The Baptists took the position that it was the "reformers" who needed to be reformed, and that remains our position to this day. Today the "Church of Christ" teaches a number of heresies: 1. A-Millennialism 2. Baptismal Regeneration 3. Denial of Eternal Security 4. Denial of a Sin Nature from Birth 5. Lord's Supper Required Weekly 6. Musical Instruments Forbidden in Worship
14. [14.](#) 7. Salvation through Works 8. True Church Theory Confession Another unscriptural and pagan practice of the Roman Catholic Church. Devout Catholics are expected to confess their sins to a priest in order to obtain forgiveness. I Timothy 2:5 says that Jesus Christ is the only

mediator between God and man. Some claim James 5:16 as proof that we should confess our sins to man, but this verse speaks of our FAULTS, not our sins. Faults are to be confessed to man, but sins are to be confessed to God (Isa. 1:18; Pro. 28:13). See Papacy and Priesthood. Deity of Man The foolish belief that man can become God, or that God is "reproducing Himself" in man. According to God's word, those who believe on Jesus Christ can become "Sons of God" (John 1:12), but never God Himself. Denial of the Blood Atonement The Blood Atonement of Jesus Christ is one of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, yet many deny that it is necessary for salvation, while others deny it altogether. The Blood Atonement is the doctrine that the blood of Jesus Christ, the sacrificial Lamb of God, was shed to atone for the sins of lost mankind (John 1:29; Heb. 9:22), and that this sinless blood was applied to the mercy seat of God the Father in Heaven (Heb. 9:11-12). All of the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament FORESHADOWED the Blood Atonement of Christ. The innocent animal that was slain in Eden for Adam and Eve's covering (Gen. 3:21) pictured the slaying of our Lord Jesus Christ for our sins. Abel's accepted offering, the firstlings of his flock (Gen. 4:4), was also a type of the Blood Atonement of Christ. There are many pictures of the Blood Atonement in the Bible, but probably the greatest is found in Exodus chapter twelve, where God REDEEMS His people by the BLOOD of the passover lamb. Today, with the completed Blood Atonement behind us, all sinners have access to God THROUGH Jesus Christ, and through Him alone. Acts 20:28 says that God PURCHASED the church "with his own blood." Revelation 1:5 assures us that Christ can WASH us from our sins in His blood. Romans 5:8-9

15. 15. says that we are JUSTIFIED by His blood, and we can have PEACE through His blood, according to Colossians 1:20. Salvation was made possible, not by the DEATH of Christ alone, but by His Blood Atonement which takes away our sins. Denial of the Deity of Christ The Deity of Christ is the doctrine that Jesus Christ is GOD. Naturally, the heretics will "bail out" on this one. Some reason that Christ couldn't be God if He was God's "Son", while others insist that He was only a prophet or good teacher. The Scriptures declare otherwise. God is a Trinity (I Jn. 5:7), and the second Member of that Trinity is the Lord Jesus Christ. John 1:1 says that "the Word was God," and John 1:14 tells us that "the Word was made flesh." Jesus Christ is the Word incarnate, and John 1:1 tells us that the Word was God; so Jesus Christ is God. Jesus allowed Thomas to address Him as "My Lord and my God" in John 20:28. In Isaiah 9:6, He is called "The mighty God" and "The everlasting Father," and we read in Micah 5:2 that Jesus is "from everlasting." Our Lord allowed people to worship him in John 10:38 and in Matthew 14:33, and since He is "God with us" (Mat. 1:23) He also has power to forgive sins (Mk. 2:5). The Deity of Christ is one of the main fundamentals of the Christian faith, because the Bible is very

clear in emphasizing the fact that Jesus Christ is more than just a great man. He existed long before He came to this earth to be born of a woman, because He is ETERNAL. He's God. This fundamental doctrine is denied by most cults. Denial of the Deity of the Holy Spirit Many also deny that the Holy Spirit is Deity by teaching that he is only a "force" like electricity or wind. God's word states that He's the third member of the Holy Trinity (I Jn. 5:7). In Acts 5:3-4, Peter accuses Ananias of lying to the Holy Ghost, and in doing so he tells him that he had lied to GOD. The Holy Ghost is God. The Holy Ghost says in Acts 13:2 that He had CALLED Barnabas and Saul, which only God could do, and He does many other things that only God could do (John. 14:16,

16. 16. 26; 16:8-14; Job 33:4; Psa. 104:30; I Cor. 6:11; Eph. 1:13, 4:30, etc.). The Holy Spirit is OMNIPRESENT (Psa. 139:7-8), OMNISCIENT (I Cor. 2:10-11), and ETERNAL (Heb. 9:14). He inspired the Scriptures ( II Pet. 1:21), and He gives life (John 6:63; 3:6). The Holy Spirit is God, for only God could perform such tasks. Denial of Eternal Security Since most heretical groups believe in salvation through good works, it is also believed that a loss of salvation comes through a lack of good works. For this reason, eternal security for the believer is commonly rejected. Actually, it is very logical and very scriptural to embrace the eternal security doctrine. My eternal security in Christ is based on my RELATIONSHIP with God, not my fellowship with Him. I am not saved because I fear God and serve Him, but rather because I have entered into a Father/Son relationship with Him through the Lord Jesus Christ. I was once a child of the Devil and a child of wrath (Jn. 8:44; Eph. 2:3), but now I am a son of God (John 1:12; I John 3:2; Rom. 8:14; Gal. 4:5). Upon receiving Christ as my Saviour, I was SEALED with the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption (Eph. 4:30; II Cor. 1:22), and I am KEPT by the power of God (I Pet. 1:5), not by my own power. Jesus will never leave me nor forsake me (Heb. 13:5; Mat. 28:20), because He BOUGHT me with His own blood (Acts 20:28; I Cor. 6:19-20). If I choose to be a disobedient child, then my Father in Heaven will CHASTEN me (Rev. 3:19; Heb. 12:4-8; I Cor. 11:30-32), but I will remain a saved and sealed son of God (John 5:24; I John 5:11-13; Rom. 8:38-39; Phi. 1:6; John 6:37; 10:28-29). True Christians are eternally secure in Christ. Denial of a Literal Burning Hell We call it to the reader's attention that it was none other than the Lord Jesus Christ who first used the term "hell fire" (Mat. 5:22), and it was Jesus Christ who said in Matthew 25:41, ". . . Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." When someone attacks the Hell Fire doctrine they are attacking the very words of Christ. A Jehovah's Witness, for example, believes that Hell is only the grave that everyone goes to at death. He believes that the saved ones in the graves will be given eternal life on earth after the White Throne Judgment of Revelation 20:11-15, while the unsaved in the graves will

be annihilated once and for all in the Lake of Fire. These people refuse to believe that God will punish the

17. **17.** wicked forever in the Lake of Fire. Of course, the Scriptures say something entirely different: (1) There is no FIRE in the grave, but there certainly is fire in the "hell" of the Bible (Luke 16:23; Deu. 32:22; Mat. 5:22; 18:9; Jas. 3:6). (2) No one PRAYS from the grave, but they certainly do in Hell (Luke 16:24; Jon. 2:2). (3) Hell was originally made for the Devil and his angels (Mat. 25:41), but the grave was not. (4) A Christian's SOUL does not go to the grave at death (Phi. 1:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; 1 Ths. 5:10). Only the BODY goes to the grave. An unsaved man's body also goes to the grave at death, but his SOUL goes to a place of TORTURE and FLAMES (Luke 16:22-23). (5) The grave cannot possibly be Hell because Jesus said it would be better to enter into life (eternal life) without a hand, a foot, or an eye, than to go to Hell (Mat. 18:8-9). How could it be "better" if Hell is only the grave where there is no suffering at all? According to Jesus Christ, Hell is a lot WORSE than losing a hand, a foot, or an eye forever. (6) Annihilation cannot be true because the Bible uses such terms as "shame and everlasting contempt" (Dan. 12:2) and "torment . . . forever" (Rev. 14:11). Shame and torment are sufferings that are experienced by a LIVING BEING--not an annihilated corpse. God is an ETERNAL Being, therefore, an eternal payment is required for sin (Mar. 9:44-48; Isa. 66:22-23). You can have a FAIR TRIAL at the White Throne Judgment, or you can have a FREE PARDON right now by receiving Jesus Christ as your Saviour. In a fair trial before God, you will be eternally damned to Hell because you are a sinner against a Holy God. God will have no choice but to sentence you to Hell forever. Denial of Literal Second Coming of Christ If the Lord Jesus Christ was resurrected literally and physically from the dead, and if He appeared physically to His disciples, then His Second Coming must also be literal and physical.
18. **18.** Acts 1:11 tells us that Jesus will return "in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Jesus ascended into Heaven literally, physically, and visibly, so He will return "in like manner." Some deny this by insisting that the Second Coming of Christ will be SPIRITUAL, rather than literal and physical: The word of God says otherwise. Paul says in Titus 2:13 that we should be LOOKING for that blessed hope and the glorious APPEARING of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. Revelation 1:7 says, "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." In Matthew 24:30, Jesus Himself says, "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Zechariah 14:4 says, "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the

east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south." The literal and physical feet of Luke 24:39 will literally STAND upon the literal, physical, and very visible mount of Olives. That's perfectly clear to anyone with reading ability. There's nothing spiritual or invisible about the Second Coming of Christ. The "clouds" will be literal (Rev. 1:7), as will the "fire" (2 Ths. 1:8), the "saints" (1 Ths. 3:13), the "mountains and rocks" (Rev. 6:16), and, of course, the thousand-year reign (Rev. 20:1-7). A "spiritual" or "invisible" Second Coming is totally foreign to the written revelation of God. Denial of Physical Resurrection of Christ The Bible speaks of a literal and physical resurrection, but some teach that He only rose from the grave spiritually. According to the words of Jesus Christ Himself, He is NOT merely a spirit being. He is a literal and physical risen Saviour. In Luke chapter twenty-four, beginning at verse thirty-six, the disciples see the risen Christ and they suppose they had seen a spirit (vs. 37). Then Jesus cleared the matter up for everyone when He said, ". . . Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me,

19. 19. and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have." (Luke 24:38-39) He then SHOWED them His hands and feet, and they believed. When Jesus appeared to Thomas He said, ". . . Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing." (John 20:27) The risen Christ had the crucifixion scars in His body to PROVE that He had been physically resurrected from the dead. If Jesus didn't rise physically, then He lied in John 2:18-22 when He said that His "body" would rise in three days. He didn't say His spirit would rise. He said that His BODY would rise. When He arose His disciples actually REMEMBERED this prophecy and believed. The bodily resurrection of Christ is a fundamental Bible doctrine. The salvation of a person's soul rests upon this doctrine, because if Jesus didn't physically rise from the dead AS HE SAID HE WOULD, then we're all lost and going to Hell according to 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Denial of a Sin Nature from Birth Although the Bible declares the reality of sin from cover to cover, some spiritualist groups insist that sin is only a concept of the mind, and that "mind-over-matter" is the only solution to this "problem" that doesn't really exist. Another angle comes from the "Church of Christ," which teaches that men are not born with a sin nature, but rather BECOME sinners later in life. Such a suggestion is almost funny to anyone who has taken time to read their Bible (Psalm 51:5; 58:3; Romans 3:10; 3:23; 5:12). Men are BORN sinners with a sin nature, which is why Jesus said we must be born again (John 3:3). Denial of the Trinity The Trinity doctrine is the doctrine that God consists of three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Those who deny the existence of the Trinity usually do so because they can't



understand it. Those of us who accept the Trinity doctrine don't fully understand it either; we just BELIEVE what God said about it.

20.       20. What did He say about it? He said, "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." (I John 5:7) He said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." (Mat. 28:19) He said, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen." (II Cor. 13:14) You can see all three members of the Holy Trinity present at the baptism of Jesus in Matthew 3:13-17. Jesus said when you've seen Him, then you've seen the Father (John 14:9), and Peter said that when you lie to the Holy Ghost you are lying to GOD (Acts 5:3-4). God the Father is God, God the Son is God, and God the Holy Ghost is God. See Deity of Christ and Deity of the Holy Ghost. Psalm 19:1-6 and Romans 1:20 tell us that we can learn of God through nature. Have you ever studied nature? The Trinity doctrine is manifest everywhere. Time consists of THREE parts: past, present, and future. Space consists of THREE parts: length, breadth, and height. Matter consists of THREE parts: energy, motion, and phenomena. The sun consists of THREE types of rays: alpha, beta, and gamma. Man consists of THREE parts: body, soul, and spirit. A family consists of THREE parts: Father, mother, and children. You see, the truth of the Trinity is everywhere. We don't have to fully understand it, and God never told us to understand it. Our job is to BELIEVE it. God is a Trinity. Three in One, and One in Three, and the One in the middle died for me. Denial of the Virgin Birth of Christ Many deny the virgin birth of Christ, although this is a fundamental doctrine of Christianity. The doctrine of the virgin birth is the doctrine that the Lord Jesus Christ was miraculously conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of a virgin, without a man being involved. The original prophecy of the Virgin Birth was given in Isaiah 7:14, over seven hundred years before Jesus was born. Luke 1:34-35 and Matthew 1:24-25 tell us that Joseph took Mary to be his wife, but that he "knew her not" until after Jesus was born. It was needful for Jesus to be conceived of the Holy Ghost, because if He had been conceived of a man, He would have had a sin nature (Psa. 51:5; Rom. 5:12). This would have disqualified Him from being the perfect Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world. The Virgin Birth is absolutely essential for New Testament salvation. Many cults prefer the new Bible translations which deliberately change the wording of Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:25, and Luke 2:33 in an attempt to
21.       21. downgrade the virgin birth of our Lord, but thanks be to God, the King James Bible can be trusted to preserve this doctrine without compromise. Ecumenical Movement This is a wicked twentieth-century unity movement of religious modernists and liberals. It is Satan's desire to unite the world so that all will be in subjection to the coming Antichrist (Rev. 13:3; 12:9); therefore, religious unity is considered a

must. Most ecumenicals have no real convictions, and they generally deny the fundamentals of Christianity, the infallibility of Scripture, and the autonomy of local churches. Eddy, Mary Baker Glover Patterson Founded the Christian Science movement in 1879 and relied heavily on the writings of Dr. P. P. Quimby. She authored Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, which is still a valued authority to Christian Scientists today. See Christian Science. Evolution This is Charles Darwin's theory that men have evolved upwards from lower life forms. In the mid 1800's, Darwin wrote The Origin of the Species and The Descent of Man. In these two books, suppositions like "we may suppose" are found over 800 times. It is clear that Darwin was not as "certain" of this theory as are the modern evolutionists, yet there is not in existence one single piece of scientific evidence which proves that man has evolved upward from animals. It is impossible to prove any theory of origins "scientifically," because the very essence of the scientific method is based upon OBSERVATION and EXPERIMENTATION, and no scientist has ever observed or experimented with the origin of the universe. All scientists know this, including L. Harrison Matthews. In his forward to Darwin's 1971 edition of "Origin of the Species", Matthews says, "...Belief in the theory of evolution is thus exactly parallel to belief in special creation--both are concepts which believers know to be true but neither, up to the present, has been capable of proof." In other words, the theory of evolution is a theory based on FAITH, rather than scientific fact. Evolutionists have their entire lives and reputations resting upon Darwin's theory, so most of them are not open to anything other than "evidence" to prove their theory. All evidence which proves CONTRARY to this theory is

22. 22. discarded and ignored. A fine example of this behavior can be found in the work of Dr. George Wald, Nobel Prize winner for Science in 1967. Dr. Wald says the following: "When it comes to the origin of life on this earth, there are only two possibilities: creation or spontaneous generation. There is no third way. Spontaneous generation was disproved 100 years ago, but that leads us only to one other conclusion: That of supernatural creation. We cannot accept that on philosophical grounds; therefore, we choose to believe the impossible: that life arose spontaneously by chance." (Dennis Lindsay, "The Dinosaur Dilemma," Christ for the Nations, Vol. 35, No. 8, November, 1982, pp. 4-5, 14.) So Darwin's theory is commonly accepted as a scientific fact, NOT because it can be proven, but rather because it is the ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO BELIEVING THE GENESIS ACCOUNT OF CREATION. Over the years, being hard-pressed for real evidence, the evolutionists have managed to conjure up a number of "proofs" that Darwin's theory is a scientific fact. This so-called "evidence" is worshiped by all evolutionists, while all contrary evidence is ignored. VESTIGIAL ORGANS are believed by evolutionists to be parts of the human body that are no longer needed. Therefore these useless

body parts must be "left-overs" from our ancestors, the monkeys. These "useless" body parts include the appendix, the coccyx (tail bone), the pineal gland, the plica semilunaris, the tonsils, and the ear lobes. Naturally, the facts are ignored. Many medical doctors agree that all of these organs have important functions in the human body, and aren't "vestigial organs" in any sense. The appendix contains a rich blood supply which serves as some defense against cancer. The tail bone isn't where your monkey tail used to be, as Darwinians believe, but it instead provides support for the muscles which control elimination. The pineal gland contains important hormones which the body needs. The plica semilunaris helps to keep foreign particles out of the eye, and the tonsils help to keep foreign particles out of your child's throat. The tonsils also help to keep infection from spreading. Yes, even the ear lobe has a purpose, for it's blood supply helps to keep our ears warm during cold weather. EMBRYOLOGY is another field of study. This is where unborn embryos are studied in order to detect the preformed shape of humans and animals. This is the field where we find Haeckel talking about "ONTOGENY RECAPITULATES PHYLOGENY." This is the belief that every individual passes through the

23. 23. many evolutionary stages while still in the mother's womb. That is, your body took on the shape of an amoeba, then a paramecium, then a jelly fish, then a fish, then a bunch of other creatures during the nine months prior to your birth. Of course, this theory ignores the fact that respiratory systems develop LATE in the human embryo. So how did early mammal life exist without breathing? They've also ignored the fact that the head of an unborn baby is larger than the body, which is NOT the case with fish. Professor Waldo Sumway, of Stephens Institute of Technology, says that "There is never a time in the development of a mammal when it could have been mistaken for a fish or reptile." TAXONOMY is where "cartoon" charts are used to artificially classify bones in order to "prove" evolution. This is where evolutionists develop a "disneyland" mentally and construct a chart which shows the earth to be about 4.5 billion years old. Then they proceed to divide this chart up into various time frames containing hundreds of millions of years each. As new discoveries are found, the scientists conveniently place them at selected places on the chart. This chart is nothing more than blind guesswork. No one has ever proven that the earth is 4.5 billion years old. The chart is NOT scientific. In fact, many scientists believe that the earth isn't over 6,000 to 10,000 years old! Of course, all opposing views are ignored by evolutionary scientists, for they need a nice big time period in which to place their new findings. Another "proof" for evolution is COMPARATIVE ANATOMY, the belief that similar bone structures prove animal kin through evolution. That is, if two different animals have similar bone structures, then they must have evolved from the same original ancestors. Of course, this is more nonsense. Any scientist knows

perfectly well that many such bone structures are produced by entirely DIFFERENT GENES, thus proving that they are in NO WAY RELATED! In fact, if similar bone structure proves anything, it proves that these animals were created by the same God! The sixth argument used to support evolution is the so-called FOSSIL EVIDENCE. The evolutionist believes that the fossil record proves a progressive evolution of the species over millions of years, beginning with non-living matter. This non-living matter supposedly evolves into protozoans, and the protozoans evolve into metazoan invertebrates, which evolve into vertebrate fishes. The fishes evolve into amphibians, which evolve into reptiles, which evolve into birds. The birds then evolve into fur-bearing

24. 24. quadrupeds (animals with 4 legs), and these quadrupeds evolve into apes, and the apes evolve into man. Now for those who actually believe such a fable, we have a question: WHERE ARE THE TRANSITIONAL FORMS? If all of those life forms survived by changing into higher life forms, then would someone please show us one living example of this today? Where can we observe a reptile who is slowly changing into a bird? How about a bird who is turning into a four-legged animal? This is one of the strongest arguments against evolution: NO TRANSITIONAL FORMS. Even Darwin realized this in his "Origin of the Species" when he said that "this is the most obvious of the many objections which may be argued against it." (Vol. 2, 6th Ed. p. 49) They never will be found, because the species are NOT LINKED (I Cor. 15:38-39). The evolutionist also runs into another problem when he considers WHERE and HOW many fossils are found. The devout evolutionist subscribes to the belief that things are pretty much the same as always. He believes that there have been no major world catastrophes to wipe out animal life, but that various species have become extinct as a result of failing to adapt to their environment. The problem with this is the stubborn fact that there are many burial sites around the world which are literally paved with fossils! Often times such fossils are found in a totally different climate from that in which they once lived. Mammoths have been found frozen, preserved perfectly in ice in Northern Siberia and Alaska. Many of these are very large and strong animals, which evolutionists claim should have survived and overcome any obstacles. BUT THEY DIDN'T! What happened? Why did they die out? How can evolution explain this? Evolution CAN'T explain it. Evolution IGNORES it. It is explained in Genesis chapters 6, 7 and 8--the Flood. A few words should also be said about the various "ape men" that have been found and placed neatly on the fictional cartoon chart in standard text books. A few simple cases will be more than enough to show the reader that Anthropology is not without it's humor. In 1922, a bunch of bones were found in Nebraska by a man named Harold Cook. After studying the upper and lower jaws and the teeth of some thirty animals, a complete ape known as Ramapithecus was constructed on the basis of ONE

TOOTH! Years later, the entire skeleton from which the tooth came was found. It turned out to be an extinct species of pig. Dr. Eugene Dubois discovered the famous Java Man (*Pithecanthropus erectus*) in 1891.

This "great discovery" consisted of a small piece of the top

25. 25. of a skull, a fragment of a left thigh bone, and three molar teeth. But, instead of being found all together, these remains were found in an area of about seventy feet, and they were found over about a year's time. They were also found in an old river bed with other assorted extinct animal bones. This, of course, presents a number of problems for Java Man. How can the "experts" be so sure that these remains all came from the same being? Better yet, how do such bones survive for 750,000 years without decaying? Where's the EVIDENCE to PROVE these theories? We know what the scientists want to believe about these findings, but WHERE'S THE PROOF? Piltdown man was discovered by Charles Dawson in 1912. Dawson claimed to have found some bones, some teeth, and even some primitive implements in a gravel pit in Piltdown, Sussex, England. He took them to a British museum where anthropologists claimed that they were 500,000 years old. Textbooks throughout the world then proclaimed Piltdown Man as the greatest find to date. Then in October of 1956, Reader's Digest EXPOSED this finding as "The Great Piltdown Hoax." The bones were found to be fraudulent. The jaw bone was proven to have belonged to an ape which had died only FIFTY YEARS before (not 500,000!). The teeth had been filed down, and both, teeth and bones, had been discovered with bichromate of potash to cover up their true identity! So much for Piltdown Man. The so-called Neanderthal Man was discovered around 1900 in a cave in the Neanderthal Valley near Dusseldorf, Germany. Naturally, he was hailed as another great "missing link." Since that time, it has been proven that Neanderthal wasn't an ape-man at all. He turned out to be a fully erect human being with a cranial capacity of over 13% more than that of normal man. Today, he is classified as "Homo Sapiens" (completely human). The "missing link" is still missing. Finally, we come to Lucy, a 40% skeleton found in Ethiopia by D.C. Johanson in the 1970's. Johanson claimed that "Lucy" had walked on two legs, because of the "angle of the thigh bone and the flattened surface at it's knee joint" (National Geographic, December, 1976). However, the knee joint was badly crushed, so Johanson's conclusion is mere speculation. Anatomist Charles Oxnard said the "Lucy" did NOT walk upright, at least not in the same manner as humans. The chimpanzee DOES spend some time walking upright, so this was probably just another ape. This is the kind of "evidence" which supports evolution. This is what a child is taught in the public school system and in the state universities as "scientific
26. 26. fact." This is what the Bible labels as "science falsely so called" (I Tim. 6:20). Also see Theistic Evolution. General Judgment Some believe in a GENERAL resurrection and judgment for all people



when Jesus returns, but this is not taught in the Scriptures. Revelation 20:4-6 plainly speak of a "first resurrection," which occurs 1000 years prior to the final judgment of Revelation 20:11-15. The first ten verses of Revelation 19 cover the events in Heaven immediately preceding the Lord's Second Coming, which follows in verses 11 through 21. After that, we see the 1000 year reign of Christ and His saints showing up in 20:1-7. This is the promised Kingdom of the Old Testament (Isa. 2:1-4; Dan. 7:27). Satan is doomed in Revelation 20:10. The wicked are judged at the White Throne Judgment in verses 11-15 and cast into the lake of fire. The Bible is perfectly clear in stating that the 1000 year reign of Christ will come immediately AFTER the Second Coming, and then the final White Throne Judgment occurs AFTER the 1000 year reign. The Second Coming is NOT when the final judgment occurs. There is no "general judgment." Image Worship The Catholic religion is filled with all sorts of symbols, images, and relics. The Creed of Pope Pius IV states the following: "I most firmly assent that the image of the Christ, of the Mother of God, ever Virgin, and also of other saints ought to be had and retained, and that due honor and veneration are to be given them." The Catechism of the Council of Trent states these words: "It is lawful to have images in the Church, and to give honor and worship unto them..." It's lawful to honor and worship images? Not according to God's word. Exodus 20:4-5 says, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me." Image worship is unscriptural and will end with the eternal damnation of those who practice it (Rev. 14:11).

27. [27.](#) Other practices such as using prayer beads, prayer wheels, crosses and relics are foreign to the Bible. The sad fact is that Roman Catholicism is a faithless religion where people refuse to walk by faith. Catholics insist on having a material religious set-up where everything can be seen (statues, crosses, bread, wine, rosaries, etc.). God's desire is for Christians to walk by faith, not by sight (II Cor. 5:7). Idolatry is wicked, and it is strictly forbidden in the Bible. Infant Baptism The practice of baptizing (or sprinkling) babies. The oldest group to practice infant baptism is the Roman Catholic Church, who teaches that all sins are forgiven by baptism. Some other groups also practice it, mostly those who came out of the Catholic church during the reformation. This practice is pagan in it's origin, and is condoned nowhere in God's word. Every candidate for baptism in the New Testament is old enough to have expressed BELIEF on Jesus Christ as Saviour. There isn't one instance of infant baptism in the New Testament. Jehovah's Witnesses In 1870, at the age of eighteen, an ex-Congregationalist by the name of Charles Taze Russell started a Bible

class in Pittsburgh. In 1876, the class elected Russell as their Pastor. He founded the "Herald of the Morning" in 1879, which eventually developed into what is known today as "The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom." Today this publication has grown to over seventeen million copies per month in over one hundred languages. In 1884, Russell incorporated the "Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society" at Pittsburgh. Today this organization has branches in over one hundred countries, and it has missionary works in over two hundred and fifty. With over one-half million volunteer workers, the Jehovah's Witnesses have become a serious threat to Bible believers throughout the world. Russell died in 1916, and Judge J.F. Rutherford took over the Society's leadership. It was under Rutherford's leadership that the group took the name "Jehovah's Witnesses," and Society headquarters moved to Brooklyn. Rutherford died in 1942, and Nathan Knorr took control and boosted the membership to over two million. In 1961, the Society published its own "translation" of the scriptures, called "The New World Translation of the Holy

28. [28.](#) Scriptures." Knorr died in 1977. As of 1996, the president of the Watchtower Society was Milton Henschel. The main heresies taught by Jehovah's Witnesses are as follow: 1. Annihilation 2. Denial of the Deity of Christ 3. Denial of the Deity of the Holy Spirit 4. Denial of Eternal Security 5. Denial of a Literal Burning Hell 6. Denial of Literal Second Coming of Christ 7. Denial of the Physical Resurrection of Christ 8. Denial of the Trinity 9. Salvation Through Works 10. True Church Theory Lord's Supper Required Weekly Some teach that the Lord's Supper is supposed to be observed on a weekly basis, but the Bible never says this once. There is certainly nothing wrong with a church observing the Lord's Supper on a weekly basis, but no one has a right to command it. The Bible never says how often this is to be done. If you'll read Matthew 26:26-28 and I Corinthians 11:23-26, you will see what God's word says about this subject, and you will notice that God does not command a weekly observance. Anyone who does command a weekly observance is ADDING to God's word. Mary Worship Catholics have been obsessed with this idolatrous practice since the fourth century. Devout Roman Catholics believe that Mary, the mother of Jesus, remained a virgin and was sinless all of her life. She is worshiped in the Catholic church as the "Mother of God" and the "Queen of Heaven." St.
29. [29.](#) Bernard stated that she was crowned "Queen of Heaven" by God the Father, and that she currently sits upon a throne in Heaven making intercession for Christians. The Bible teaches otherwise. In the Bible, Mary was a sinner just like the rest of us. She said herself that she needed a "Saviour" (Lk. 1:47), and she even had to offer a sacrifice for her sins in Luke 2:24. Jesus was only her "firstborn" son, according to Matthew 1:25, because she later had other children as well (Mt. 13:55; Gal. 1:19; Psalms 69:8). There's only ONE mediator between God

and men, and it isn't Mary (I Tim. 2:5). The last time we hear from Mary in the Bible she is praying WITH the disciples, not being prayed to BY the disciples (Acts 1:14). Roman Catholic Mary Worship is nothing more than Pagan Idolatry. Throughout history pagans have worshiped female deities under various names, and many of them are in the Bible (Judges 10:6; I Sam. 7:3-4; 12:10; I Kings 11:5; II Kings 23:13, etc.), including the "queen of heaven" (Jer. 44:16- 25). Mary is nothing more than a sinner saved by grace, whom God chose to use as a means of bringing His Son into this world. The Bible never exalts her above anyone else. Neither should we. If you are a Roman Catholic, perhaps you should give special attention to Mary's only command in John 2:5. Masonry Also known as "The Masons" or "The Lodge," Freemasonry has been around for many centuries. Masons claim that their organization finds its roots with the builders of King Solomon's temple, but others trace its origin in the Ancient Pagan Mysteries. According to Pike's *Morals and Dogma*, Buddha was a Mason some one thousand years before Christ. The first Grand Lodge was founded in London in 1717. Masons claim that their "fraternity" is not a religion, but over and over again we find religious elements in their practices. They have temples, alters, Bibles, prayer, lamb skins, and one must believe in a Supreme Being before joining. In *Grolier's Encyclopedia*, a Masonic member states: "If a person lives what the lodge teaches he won't have any trouble getting into Heaven." (Grolier, Vol. 5, "Freemasonry," pg. 68) Another Masonic writer, Albert Pike (who was also an occultist), writes: "Every Masonic Lodge is a Temple of Religion; and its teachings are instruction in religion." (*Morals and Dogma*, pg. 213) On page 68 of the *Minnesota Proceedings*, 1895, we read these interesting words: "He who approaches our alter in good faith and by the light which we bring him receives our teachings into a heart already prepared and lives a life

30. 30. in conformity with the principles which he here imbues, has come into an invaluable possession and need have no fear when the word shall come calling him into the hereafter but that he will be received as a living stone fit for a temple not made with hands." (See I Peter 2:4-8) Regardless of their claims, the Masons are clearly embedded in a mystical religious system of salvation through works. Any god will do in this religion, because the Lodge teaches that it isn't God who saves one's soul anyhow: it's their good works. In fact, in nations where Christianity isn't embraced, Masonic alters display the appropriate "Book of the Law" instead of the Bible. Freemasonry is definitely a religion, and a very BAD one at that. The entry level in Masonry is The Blue Lodge, which consists of three degrees: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. One may stop at the level of Master Mason, or he can choose to enter either the Scottish Rite or the York Rite. The Scottish Rite advances by numerical degrees, the highest being the 33rd honorary degree. The York Rite advances by

Chapter, Council, and Commandery degrees, with the highest level being The Order of the Knights Templar Commandery. The Masons speak much about approaching "the light," yet their whole organization is shrouded in secretive practices and blood curdling oaths which should deter any true Christian. In clear violation of the words of the Lord Jesus Christ (Mat. 5:33-37), as well as James 5:12, an Entered Apprentice Mason SWEARS BY GOD to: "...always hail, ever conceal, and never reveal, any of the arts, parts, or points of the hidden mysteries of Ancient Free masonry...binding myself under no less penalty than that of having my throat cut across, my tongue torn out by its roots, and my body buried in the rough sands of the sea..."

Thank God this is an entry level oath, for it has no doubt turned away many God-fearing Christian men! The deep secrets of Masonry are just as unscriptural. It is falsehood and wickedness that dwell in dark secret corners. Truth is worthy of propagation (Mat. 28:18-19). Jesus Himself said, "...I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing." In the initiation of an Entered Apprentice, the "Worshipful Master" (Mat. 23:10) asks: "In your present condition, what do you most desire?" The candidate responds: "Light." The "Master" later informs the candidate that he is "yet in darkness." Then for the Second Degree (Fellow Craft) the candidate is required to ask for "more light." According to God's word, Jesus Christ is the

31. [31](#). LIGHT (John 1:9; 8:12) and God's word is LIGHT (Psa. 119:105, 130). If you are saved, then it is an outright BLASPHEMY for you to agree that you are "yet in darkness." Please note: "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." So all Masons have DENIED Jesus Christ and have asked for another light being offered to them through Masonry. "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." (II Cor. 11:14) Having denied Christ, the TRUE LIGHT, the Mason can now advance upwards on the Masonic ladder where he will encounter ANOTHER "light" in some of the most ungodly practices and worship rituals known to man. Meanwhile, lower level Masons are kept in darkness, thinking they are only taking part in a good cause for their fellow man. (Before you send me your letters of protest, please read the Masonic literature recommended in the back of this booklet.) The Lodge is no place for Christians. One Masonic publication in my file is titled "Is Masonry Worthwhile?" No, it's an enemy of Christianity, a tool of Satan, and a gross waste of valuable time. Mass By perverting the Christian practice of the Lord's Supper (Mat. 26:26-28; I Cor. 11:23-27), the Catholic Church has created the Mass, which they believe to be a

continual sacrifice of Jesus Christ: "Christ...commanded that his bloody sacrifice on the Cross should be daily renewed by an unbloody sacrifice of his body and blood in the Mass under the simple elements of bread and wine." (The Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. 10, Pg. 13, Article: "Mass, Sacrifice of") Jesus never made such a command. If you'll check the above references in Matthew 26 and I Corinthians 11, you'll see for yourself that the Lord's Supper is a MEMORIAL and a SHOWING of Christ's death until He comes again. It is not a sacrifice. This is a private interpretation and an outright perversion of God's word. The Mass is without a doubt the central part of Catholic worship. The Catholic Encyclopedia states the following: "In the celebration of the Holy Mass, the bread and wine are changed into the body and blood of Christ. It is called transubstantiation, for in the Sacrament

32. [32.](#) of the Eucharist the substance of bread and wine do not remain, but the entire substance of bread is changed into the body of Christ, and the entire substance of wine is changed into his blood, the species or outward semblance of bread and wine alone remaining." (Vol. 4, pg. 277, Article: "Consecration") This may come as a shock if you aren't familiar with Catholic belief, but do you realize what you've just read? The Catholic Church teaches that the "Holy Mass" is a LITERAL EATING AND DRINKING OF THE LITERAL FLESH AND BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST. Read the statement again. The priest supposedly has the power to change the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. You say, "It's just symbolic, not literal." You're wrong! It SHOULD be symbolic, but Rome teaches it to be literal. The Catholic Encyclopedia also says that "The dogma of the totality of the Real Presence means that in each individual species the whole Christ, flesh and blood, body and soul, Divinity and humanity, is really present." (Vol. 14, pg. 586) So all of Jesus Christ is "really present" in the mass, and devout Catholics believe in eating and drinking Him. In fact, the Council of Trent pronounced a CURSE upon anyone who doesn't believe it (Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. 10, pg. 6). Now, what does God's word say about such practices? If you'll read Genesis 9:4, Leviticus 17:11-12, and Acts 15:29, you will find that God absolutely FORBIDS the drinking of blood all through the Bible. This has been a pagan practice for thousands of years. In Psalm 16:4, David said that he would not take up drink offerings of blood! Jeremiah 44:17 speaks of the pagan practice of pouring out drink offerings unto the "queen of heaven". Sound familiar? Rome teaches that the Mass is a continual "sacrifice" of Jesus Christ, but God's word states that Jesus made the FINAL sacrifice on Calvary! This is made perfectly clear in Hebrews 10:10-12: "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;" The mass is



unscriptural and unnecessary. Rome teaches that the mass is a continual sacrifice, but God's word states that Jesus Christ finished every work necessary to pay for all sin. There's no need for a continual sacrifice. There's nothing more to do except repent of your sins and believe on Christ. Just accept His finished work on Calvary as the final payment for your sins.

33. [33.](#) John 1:12 says, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." Miller, William Known as the father of the Seventh Day Adventists. Miller was a Baptist minister who falsely predicted the date of Christ's second advent in the 1840's. Realizing his error, he alienated himself from the Adventist movement, but Ellen White rekindled the fire with her visions and writings, and the Adventists were here to stay. See Seventh Day Adventists. Moon, Rev. Sun Myung Founder of The Unification Church (the Moonies) who claims to have received a personal commission from Jesus Christ. See Unification Church. Mormons The Mormon movement began with "the prophet" Joseph Smith, Jr. in the year 1820. Joe (as he was known) was born to some rather strange parents in 1805. His mother, Lucy, was involved in occult practices and visions, while his father, Joseph, Sr., consumed much time with imaginary treasure digging (including the booty of Captain Kidd). According to Mormon writings (Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith - History 1:1-25), on a day in 1820, Joe was praying in the woods when he received a vision from God the Father and Jesus. It was revealed to Joe that the church was in apostasy and he was the chosen one to launch a new dispensation. Being unwilling to drop his current occupation of money-digging with his father (while using "peep stones" and "divining rods"), Joe put his "calling" on hold for three years. Then, according to his own account (Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith - History 1:29-54), he was paid a bedside visit by the angel Moroni in 1823. Moroni, who professed to be the glorified son of a man named Mormon (who had been dead 1400 years), told Joe about a book of golden plates which contained "the fulness of the everlasting Gospel." This book was said to have been buried at Cumorah Hill, near Palmyra, New York, some 1400 years earlier by the man named Mormon. Four years later (1827), Joe supposedly dug up the golden plates along with a gigantic pair of spectacles which he called "the Urim and Thummim." The spectacles were for translating the hieroglyphics on the plates. With the help of his only legal wife and a friend named Oliver Cowdery, Joe translated the plates and published the
34. [34.](#) Book of Mormon in 1830. Later that same year, Joe, his wife, his brothers (Hyrum and Samuel), and Cowdery established the "Church of Jesus Christ," which is known today as the "Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints." The Book of Mormon contains many plagerisms of the King James English (at least 25,000 words). This is strange since the plates were supposed to have been in the ground

many centuries before the King James Bible was completed in 1611! The Book of Mormon also contains many errors such as claims of elephants in the Western Hemisphere and advanced metal producing capabilities in America before 400 A.D. (See Walter Martin's Kingdom of the Cults for a fine study in the errors of the Mormon Bible) The Mormons, under Smith's command, turned out to be a rough bunch. Joe was a polygamist with at least twenty-seven wives (some say over 60 wives). The whole gang left New York for Ohio, and then moved to Missouri. The Missouri governor ran them out of the state, so they settled in Nauvoo, Illinois, and built the state's largest city. In 1844, Joe and Hyrum were thrown in jail. Then an angry mob stormed the jail and murdered them both. Naturally, this "martyrdom" insured the perpetual reverence of the great "prophet" Joseph Smith. The "church" then split. The Smith family headed for Independence, Missouri and started what is now the "Recognized Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints." However, the majority of Smith's followers chose Brigham Young as their new captain. To escape U.S. laws, Young led the Mormons from Nauvoo to Salt Lake City in 1847 (which then belonged to Mexico). For the next thirty years, Young and his "saints" laid the foundation stones of the Mormon cult. Little known to most Mormons, Young was a rather rough and ruthless character. In 1857, he commanded Bishop John D. Lee to murder a wagon train of over one hundred helpless non-Mormon immigrants. Twenty years later Lee was convicted and executed by the U.S. Government. Young escaped punishment, and his role in the Mountain Meadows Massacre has escaped the Mormon history books. Young spent most of his "ministry" dodging the law to continue the immoral practice of polygamy. At the time of his death in 1877, Young had seventeen wives and fifty-six children.

35. 35. Today the Mormon church is administrated by its "General Authorities." These authorities consist of the "First Presidency," the "Counsel of Twelve Apostles," the "First Quorum of the Seventy" and its presidency, the "Presiding Bishoprick," and the "Patriarch of the Church." Male Mormons over twelve years of age are divided into priesthoods. The Aaronic order is the lesser priesthood, and the Melchizedek order is the higher. The church is divided into thousands of "wards" and "stakes," with over 2000 branches and 180 missions, and over 5,000,000 members. Mormons are very missionary-minded people, with over 26,000 active missionaries. However, much of this missionary army consists of young men and women in their early twenties who must serve two years in missionary work while supporting themselves. The Mormon people of today are highly respected in our society, but there is nothing respectable about their doctrines. Their principle heresies are: 1. Annihilation 2. Baptismal Regeneration 3. Deity of Man 4. Denial of the Blood Atonement 5. Denial of the Deity of Christ 6. Denial of the Deity of the Holy Spirit 7.

Denial of a Literal Burning Hell 8. Denial of the Physical Resurrection of Christ 9. Denial of a Sin Nature from Birth 10. Denial of the Trinity 11. Multiple Authorities 12. Polytheism

36. [36.](#) 13. Salvation through Works 14. True Church Theory Moron The "angel" who disobeyed Galatians 1:8-9 and appeared to Joseph Smith in 1823 to instruct him to dig up some golden plates in Cumorah Hill, New York. The Book of Mormon was supposedly translated from these plates. See Mormon. Multiple Authorities "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." (Isa. 8:20) God's word is the ONLY Divine authority upon this earth, yet many give tradition or their own religious writings, or even their feelings, just as much weight as God's word. The Catholic authorities are the Bible (their Bible), the Pope, tradition, and the Church Fathers. Jehovah's Witnesses look to the Bible (their Bible) and The Watchtower. Christian Science is built upon the Bible and Science and Health by Mrs. Eddy. Charismatics use the Bible until it contradicts their FEELINGS. Then they ignore the Bible and follow their feeling. Musical Instruments Forbidden in Worship A strange heresy taught mostly by the "Church of Christ." The Bible is filled with musical instruments (Psa. 33:2-4; I Chron. 25:5-6; II Sam. 6:5; I Chron. 16:42; Neh. 12:27; Psa. 150), and there are even musical instruments in Heaven (Rev. 5:8; 14:2; 15:2)! To forbid instruments in worship is simply another case of ADDING to God's word. Two favorite texts for this heresy are Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16, which speak of Christian music coming from the heart. Neither verse forbids instruments, and neither verse speaks of a worship service. Both verses are dealing with an individual believer's personal fellowship with Christ, not church worship services. Original Manuscripts There is no such thing as "the Greek text," and no one living today has ever seen "the original Greek" because it hasn't existed since it fell apart many centuries ago. Usually when a man makes reference to "the Greek," he is
37. [37.](#) having trouble believing what God has already told him in THE ENGLISH. There are over 5000 PIECES of manuscript evidence available, which have been found in different places, but there is no "original manuscript" in existence. No one knows what the "original" says, because no one has it, and no one living today has ever seen it. Papacy and Priesthood Catholic doctrine teaches that while Christ is in Heaven, the Pope is the appointed head of the church on earth. However, the Bible never mentions anyone being the head of the church except Jesus Christ Himself (Eph. 5:23). In Matthew 16:18 Jesus says to Peter, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." According to the Catholic Church, this is where Jesus appointed Peter to be the first Pope, the earthly head of the church. That is, the Catholics teach that "this rock" is a reference to Peter. The

Scriptures are quite clear in stating that the Rock is Jesus Christ and no one else. In fact, Peter himself testifies of this truth when he calls Jesus the "chief cornerstone" in I Peter 2:6. Paul tells us in I Corinthians 3:11 that Jesus Christ is the "foundation". He then says in I Corinthians 10:4 that Jesus Christ is the "Rock". The reader might also give some consideration to the words of Moses in Deuteronomy 32:29-31. Jesus Christ is the foundation (I Cor. 3:11), the perfect match for the "rock" ("petra") of Matthew 16:18. Christ is clearly the Rock in Scripture (II Sam. 22:32; Psa. 40:2; 42:9; 89:26; 92:15; 94:22; Acts 4:11-12). As for Peter being the first Pope, the sincere Bible student should note the following facts: 1. The word "Pope" is never mentioned once in God's word. 2. Peter was married (Mat. 8:14; I Cor. 9:5), while the Popes are not. 3. Peter refused to allow others to bow down to him (Acts 10:25-26), but the Popes allow such practices. 4. Peter didn't think very highly of tradition (I Pet. 1:18), yet tradition is a major authority in the Catholic Church. 5. Peter believed in waiting for the "crown of glory" (I Pet. 5:4), while all Popes believe in wearing a crown now.

38. 38. 6. If Peter was the Pope in Rome, as the Catholics teach, then why did Paul not mention him in his letter to the Romans? In Romans chapter 16, Paul gives the names of over twenty church members, yet he fails to mention Peter. How could this have happened if Peter was the Pope in Rome? 7. If Peter was the head of the church, why did Paul have to set him straight on doctrine in Galatians 2:11? 8. If Peter was the Pope, then why didn't he say so in his epistles? He simply labeled himself "an apostle of Jesus Christ" (I Pet. 1:1) and nothing more. 9. Paul wrote 100 chapters with 2,325 verses, while Peter wrote only 8 chapters with 166 verses. Why would "the Pope" write less? 10. Paul spoke of Peter, James, and John (not just Peter) being pillars in the church (Gal. 2:9). Peter is never magnified above the other Apostles. 11. Don't forget that it was Peter who denied the Lord Jesus Christ three times in one night (Mat. 26:69-75). Does this sound like something that would be done by the head of the church? 12. The Catholics believe that Peter was the first Pope in Rome, but the New Testament never speaks of Peter being anywhere near Rome.
- Conclusion: The Bible never even hints of Peter being a Pope. This whole doctrine is Catholic tradition, totally lacking Scriptural support. What about the priesthood? In the Bible, the Lord Jesus Christ is our High Priest (Heb. 3:1; 4:14-15; 5:5; 8:1; 9:11), and all Christians make up a spiritual priesthood (I Pet. 2:5). Only in the Old Testament do we find a special class of priests, the Levites, who make intercession to God for the common people. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ has sanctified all Christians through His completed work on Calvary (Heb. 10:10-11). All priests today are unnecessary and unscriptural. However, the Roman Church desires to force upon it's members all sorts of sacramental laws and rituals in order to keep them faithful to "the Church". Such practices are foreign to the New Testament. For

example, the idea of calling a priest "father" is not New Testament Christianity, but rather OLD Testament paganism (Jud. 17:10). Jesus clearly forbids this in Matthew 23:9.

39. 39. The New Testament never speaks of a special priest class to rule over the laity. In fact, Peter forbids this in I Peter 5:3: "Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." The "Nicolaitans" ("to conquer the laity") were also guilty of this wicked practice, and Jesus Christ said He HATES it (Rev. 2:6). By appointing priests, bishops, archbishops and popes, the Catholic Church has constructed a system which rules well over half a billion people! One of the requirements of a Catholic priest is celibacy, in spite of the fact that Peter (their first "Pope") was a married man. There is simply no command in the Bible for any spiritual leader to be unmarried. In fact, I Timothy 3:2 says that a bishop must be the husband of one wife. I Timothy 4:1-3 told us that there would come a time when people would be "forbidding to marry", and Paul said this was a doctrine of devils. Why, even the OLD TESTAMENT priests were allowed to marry (Exo. 6:23-25)! The only priests who didn't marry were the pagan priests from places like Babylon who remained celibate to practice their religious prostitution. Should you confess your sins to a priest? No, you should not. Peter told Simon of Samaria to pray to GOD in Acts 8:22. Jesus Christ is the One Mediator between God and men (I Tim. 2:5). Jesus is the High Priest, while Christians make up a spiritual priesthood. A true Christian IS a priest (I Pet. 2:5, 9) and needs to confess to no one other than Jesus Christ. The Roman Catholic priesthood is totally unscriptural. Parham, Charles F. The "father" of the modern Pentecostal movement who founded the Bethel Bible College in 1900 and taught his students to speak in tongues as initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. See Charismatic Groups. Polytheism The belief in more than one God. The Bible teaches that there is but one true God (Gen. 1:1; Mal. 2:10; Mark 12:29), and that all other "gods" are false gods (I Cor. 8:5-6). Post-Millennialism This is the false belief that the millennial reign of Christ will be ushered in by the Church, and Jesus will not return until AFTER the earth has experienced one thousand years of peace and righteousness. This, of course, is pure foolishness. Man has never established peace and righteousness, and he never will. The Pre-Millennial view of the Second Coming is the only correct view.

40. 40. Promise Keepers The Promise Keepers is a massive organization of men who have made "Seven solid promises that will change a man's life forever." The seven promises are titled: (1) A man and his God, (2) A man and his mentors, (3) A man and his integrity, (4) A man and his family, (5) A man and his church, (6) A man and his brothers, and (7) A man and his world. The promises include such seemingly good practices as honoring Jesus Christ through prayer and worship, obeying God's word in the power of the Holy Spirit, pursuing



and keeping friendships with other Promise Keepers, practicing purity, building and maintaining strong marriages and families, supporting the church and pastor, practicing Biblical unity, and influencing the world by obeying the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. To the average onlooker, the Promise Keepers appear to be a very commendable organization. However, like with many other harmful groups, the outward appearance of the Promise Keepers covers the true danger of their movement. The basic danger lies in the unscriptural alliance between fundamental Christians, apostates, false teachers, and worldly philosophies. Sound doctrine is sacrificed on the altar of UNITY and MONEY. The Promise Keepers have actually changed their statement of faith in order to better accommodate Roman Catholics. In fact, Bill McCartney, the 1991 founder of Promise Keepers, has told *Our Sunday Visitor* (a Catholic publication) that it was his intention to include Catholics from the very start. On page 19 of the book, *Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper*, Charismatic leader Jack Haylord includes the Catholic Eucharist and the Mass as ways to worship God. It is estimated that ten to twenty percent of Promise Keepers are Catholic. Being unity lovers, the Charismatics also play a large roll in the Promise Keepers movement. A survey conducted at the Stand In The Gap Rally on October 4, 1997, indicated that about one third of the men there spoke in tongues, while most did not believe the Bible should be taken literally. Most also believed in a large revival in Christianity before the Second Coming, although God's word says just the opposite (II Ths. 2:3-12; II Tim. 3:1-13; I Tim. 4:1-5). The survey also showed that most Promise Keepers were very proud of their ability to IGNORE BIBLE DOCTRINE for the sake of unity. The Bible says, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to

41. [41.](#) themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." (II Tim. 4:2-4) It seems that the most common characteristic among Promise Keepers isn't unity or love. It is disregard, disrespect, and disobedience to the clear teachings of God's word, especially where sound doctrine and separation are concerned (See II John). Christians that really love Jesus Christ will also love His WORDS (John 14:23). Those who claim His name, but ignore His words, are serving "another Jesus" through "another Spirit," and are proclaiming "another gospel" (Psa. 138:2; II Cor. 11:1-4; Mat. 7:22-23). "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." (Isa. 8:20) God's word was here long before Bill McCartney and the Promise Keepers, and it will be here long after they're gone. They would do well to start obeying it. "Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment

shall be rewarded." (Pro. 13:13) Purgatory Let's assume that you're a Roman Catholic and your Catholic mother dies. The Catholic Church teaches that she doesn't go straight to Heaven because her sins must be purged in a place called purgatory. She must burn in the fires of purgatory after death until all of her sins have been purged, and then she can enter Heaven. To speed up her purging process and to shorten her days in purgatory, you must pay money to the priest so he can pray and have special masses for her. This heresy began creeping into the Roman Church during the reign of Pope Gregory around the end of the sixth century, and it has no scriptural support. In fact, Jesus warned us about this pagan practice in Matthew 23:14 when He spoke of those who devoured widows houses and made long prayers for a pretence. Psalm 49:6-7 tells us that a person couldn't redeem a loved one, even if such a place did exist: "They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches; None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:" Peter tells us in I Peter 1:18-19 that one cannot be redeemed with the corruptible riches of this world, but rather with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Peter also addresses this issue in Acts 8:20 when he says, "Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money." God's word is clearly against the doctrine of purgatory.

42. [42.](#) So where did this belief originate? Actually, it's a very old pagan belief, beginning hundreds of years before Christ. Plato believed in it, as did the Stoics, Buddha, and the Moslems. Also, the Apocrypha speaks of praying for the dead in II Maccabees chapter twelve. The purgatory doctrine is simply another pagan heresy. Quimby, Phineas P. The clock-maker from Maine who developed the system of mental healing on which Christian Science and Unity are built. It was Quimby who first used the terms "The Science of Christ" and "Christian Science" long before Mrs. Eddy began her cult. Reincarnation The belief that a person's soul passes from one body to another at death. This process continues until the soul is "perfected." The Bible disagrees by saying that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (II Cor. 5:8). Roman Catholic Church The Roman Catholic Church claims to have started in Matthew 16:18 when Christ supposedly appointed Peter as the first Pope. However, the honest and objective student of the Scriptures and history soon discovers that the foundation of the Roman church is none other than the pagan mystery religion of ancient Babylon. While enduring the early persecutions of the Roman government (65-300 A.D.), most of professing Christianity went through a gradual departure from New Testament doctrine concerning church government, worship and practice. Local churches ceased to be autonomous by giving way to the control of "bishops" ruling over hierarchies. The simple form of worship from the heart was replaced with the rituals and splendor of paganism. Ministers became

"priests," and pagans became "Christians" by simply being sprinkled with water. This tolerance of an unregenerate membership only made things worse. The Roman Senate eventually became the College of Cardinals, the Emperor became the Pope, the vestal virgins became the nuns, Jupiter became St. Peter, Venus became Mary, and many of the pagan idols took on Christian names. SPRINKLED PAGANISM is about the best definition for Roman Catholicism.

43.       43. The Roman Emperor Constantine established himself as the head of the church around 313 A.D., which made this new "Christianity" the official religion of the Roman Empire. The first actual Pope in Rome was probably Leo I (440- 461 A.D.), although some claim that Gregory I was the first (590-604 A.D.). This ungodly system eventually ushered in the darkest period of history known to man, properly known as the "Dark Ages" (500-1500 A.D.). Through popes, bishops, and priests, Satan ruled Europe, and Biblical Christianity became illegal. Throughout all of this, however, there remained individual groups of true Christians, such as the Waldensens and the Anabaptists, who would not conform to the Roman system. Many Bible believers throughout history have acknowledged the Catholic church as Satan's COUNTERFEIT church, and as the Babylonian "whore" of Revelation chapter 17. This author is no exception. Some of the main heresies of the Catholic church are as follows: 1. Baptismal Regeneration 2. Celibate Priesthood 3. Confession 4. Denial of Eternal Security 5. Image Worship 6. Immaculate Conception 7. Infant Baptism 8. Mary Worship 9. Mass 10. Multiple Authorities 11. Papacy and Priesthood 12. Purgatory 13. Salvation through Works
44.       44. 14. True Church Theory Russell, Charles Taze Founder of the Jehovah's Witnesses. In 1870, at only eighteen years of age, Russell started a Bible class in Pittsburgh which elected him as pastor six years later. His followers were called "Russellites." Rutherford, Judge Joseph Franklin Successor to Charles Russell as the leader of the Jehovah's Witnesses. The movement experienced much growth during his reign from 1916 until his death in 1942. Sabbath Keeping This is a heresy taught by the Seventh Day Adventists and the followers of Armstrongism. The Jews under the law of Moses were commanded to keep the sabbath day (Saturday) as a SIGN of their relationship to God (Exo. 20:8- 11; Ezk. 20:12, 20; Neh. 9:14). Since Jesus "finished" the Old Testament law, the sabbath is no longer in effect as a sign between God and His people. Colossians 2:16-17 says, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ." The "first day of the week" is the appointed day of worship for New Testament Christians. The disciples and New Testament Christians met and worshiped on the first day of the week (Acts 20:6-7; I Cor. 16:2). Jesus rose and completed our redemption on the first day of the week (Mark 16:9). Jesus met with His

disciples after His resurrection - more than once - on the first day of the week (Mark 16:9-12; Mat 28:8-10; Luke 24:36). Jesus blessed His disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit on the first day of the week (John 20:19). The Gospel of a risen Saviour was first preached on the first day of the week (Luke 24:34). The Holy Spirit descended on the first day of the week (Acts 2 - We know Pentecost was on a Sunday because it was always on the 50th day after Passover - Lev. 23:15-16.) Christians do not keep the sabbath. We keep the first day of the week. Salvation through Works